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KLAUS J. BACH & ASSOCIATES  
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
4407 TWIN OAKS DR  
MURRYSVILLE, PA 15668 USA

TEL: 724-327-0664  
FAX: 724-327-0004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Fortuna, Ana M.

Docket: NI 156-SEE

Applicant(s): Wolfgang Albrecht et al.

Serial No.: 10/662166

In Response To Paper No: 20060626

Filing Date: 08/Sep/03

Art Unit: 1723

Title: FUNCTIONALIZED POLYIMIDE MOLDED BODY AND  
FUNCTIONALIZED POLYIMIDE MEMBRANE

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
571-273-8300

July 28, 2006

SIR:

This is in response to the Official Action dated 05/08/06.

REMARKS

1. Concerning the Examiner's rejection of claims 1 - 20 under 35 USC § 112, it is noted that the person skilled in the art is quite familiar with the definition of a covalent bonding, that is for the person skilled in the art, a covalent bonding is a direct chemical bonding wherein the modifier molecule is bonded by means of a chemical bond or link to a substrate. In the present case, an amino group of the modifier reacts while opening the imide ring of the polyamide substrate and forming two amino groups. Herein, one amide